

## State of North Carolina Office of the Governor

For Release: IMMEDIATE Contact: Seth Effron
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## GOV. EASLEY ANNOUNCES 63 JOBS IN GREENE COUNTY One North Carolina Fund Grant Helps Food Manufacturer YamCo Open in Snow Hill

**RALEIGH** - Gov. Mike Easley today announced that YamCo LLC will open a food manufacturing facility in Greene County, creating 63 jobs and investing \$6 million during the next three years. The announcement was made possible in part by a \$110,000 One North Carolina Fund grant.

"YamCo's decision to locate in Greene County brings together one of North Carolina's longtime leading agricultural crops with our success in attracting new and expanding businesses," Easley said. "We will continue to make investments in education and workforce training to further strengthen North Carolina's ability to welcome growing companies."

YamCo will open a manufacturing facility in Snow Hill to process and package sweet potatoes. North Carolina is the United States' leading producer of sweet potatoes, accounting for 40 percent of the nation's annual production. While wages will vary by job function, the average weekly wage of the new jobs will be \$551 plus benefits, which is greater than the Greene County average weekly wage of \$412 not including benefits.

"We feel our decision to locate in North Carolina will be very beneficial to everyone," said YamCo President Bobby Ham. "We received excellent assistance from the state Department of Commerce, Department of Agriculture, the Rural Center, N.C. State University, Greene County, North Carolina's Eastern Region and Progress Energy. The fact that North Carolina is the No. 1 state for sweet potatoes makes this a smart decision."

The One North Carolina Fund assists the state in industry recruitment and expansion by providing financial assistance through local governments to attract business projects that will stimulate economic activity and create new jobs in the state. One North Carolina Fund grants require and are contingent on a local match. Through the use of this Fund, more than 20,000 jobs and \$3 billion in investment have been created since 2001.

For more information about the company and employment opportunities, email: yamcojobs@yamco.net or call (866)747-8200.

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